

# STATE OF WISCONSIN Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of



DECISION

Case #: MQB - 175340

## **PRELIMINARY RECITALS**

Pursuant to a petition filed on July 5, 2016, under Wis. Stat. § 49.45(5), and Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.03(1), to review a decision by the St. Croix County Health & Human Services regarding Medical Assistance (MA), a hearing was held on September 14, 2016, by telephone.

The issue for determination is whether the department correctly ended the petitioner's Medicare Premium Assistance when she was incarcerated.

There appeared at that time the following persons:

#### PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:



Respondent:

Department of Health Services 1 West Wilson Street, Room 651 Madison, WI 53703

By:

St. Croix County Health & Human Services 1752 Dorset Lane New Richmond, WI 54017-1063

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

Michael D. O'Brien Division of Hearings and Appeals

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The petitioner (CARES # ) is a resident of St. Croix County.

- 2. The petitioner was in jail from May 25, 2016, through August 22, 2016.
- 3. The department ended the petitioner's Medicare Premium Assistance on June 30, 2016.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The petitioner was receiving benefits under the Medicare Savings Program, which pays Medicare premiums for eligible recipients of SSI. These programs use the same rules for determining financial eligibility as Medicaid. *Medicaid Eligibility Handbook*, § 32.1.1. Medical assistance law bars payment for "[c]are or services for an individual who is an inmate of public institution..." Wis. Stat. § 49.47(6)(c)3. The department ended the petitioner's Medicare premium assistance on June 30, 2016, because she was in jail from May 25, 2016, through August 22, 2016. She is concerned about being reinstated for benefits, which the agency worker testified will happen on October 1, 2016. But the only issue before me in this hearing is whether the department correctly ended her benefits, not whether it is choosing the correct date to reinstate them. It did.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The county agency correctly ended the petitioner's Medicare premium assistance benefits when she was incarcerated.

### THEREFORE, it is

#### **ORDERED**

The petitioner's appeal is dismissed.

## REQUEST FOR A REHEARING

You may request a rehearing if you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law or if you have found new evidence that would change the decision. Your request must be **received** within 20 days after the date of this decision. Late requests cannot be granted.

Send your request for rehearing in writing to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 5005 University Avenue, Suite 201, Madison, WI 53705-5400 and to those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your rehearing request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and explain why you did not have it at your first hearing. If your request does not explain these things, it will be denied.

The process for requesting a rehearing may be found at Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

#### APPEAL TO COURT

You may also appeal this decision to Circuit Court in the county where you live. Appeals must be filed with the Court **and** served either personally or by certified mail on the Secretary of the Department of Health Services, 1 West Wilson Street, Room 651, **and** on those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST" **no more than 30 days after the date of this decision** or 30 days after a denial of a timely rehearing (if you request one).

The process for Circuit Court Appeals may be found at Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

Given under my hand at the City of Madison, Wisconsin, this 16th day of September, 2016

\s

Michael D. O'Brien Administrative Law Judge Division of Hearings and Appeals



## State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

Brian Hayes, Administrator Suite 201 5005 University Avenue Madison, WI 53705-5400 Telephone: (608) 266-3096 FAX: (608) 264-9885 email: DHAmail@wisconsin.gov Internet: http://dha.state.wi.us

The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on September 16, 2016.

St. Croix County Health & Human Services
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability